

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 AID-05 COME-00 OPIC-06

CIAE-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 L-03 SP-02 AF-06

ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-10 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15 /112 W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4972

INFO USMISSION USUN

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UNCLAS GENEVA 5996

EO: 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECOSOC OCON EINV

SUBJ: 59TH ECOSOC: ITEM NO. 14--ECONOMIC COMMITTEE, TRANSNATION-
AL CORPORATIONS

BEGIN SUMMARY. DISCUSSION IN ECONOMIC COMMITTEE OF ITEM 14, WITH 29 SPEAKERS ON JULY 10-11, WAS GENERALLY LOW-KEY EXCEPT FOR STANDARD-TYPE PRC STATEMENT ON PLUNDER AND EXPLOITATION OF LDCS BY TNCs. MOST LDC SPEAKERS EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF GIVING PRIORITY TO WORK OF CTC ON CODE OF CONDUCT, BUT NO EFFORT WAS MADE TO REFLECT THIS VIEW IN DRAFT RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED UNDER THIS ITEM (REPORTED SEPTELS). MOST SPEAKERS CALLED ON SYG TO GET GOING ON APPOINTMENT OF EX. DIRECTOR OF IRC. END SUMMARY

1. UNDERSECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS (VAN LAETHAM) BRIEFLY REVIEWED ELEMENTS OF CTC DRAFT WORK PROGRAM WHICH THE IRC WOULD BE CALLED UPON TO HELP IMPLEMENT AND NOTED THAT PREPARATORY WORK FOR THE SECOND SESSION WAS BEING ACTIVELY PRESSED. SYG ATTACHED GREAT IMPORTANCE TO OBTAINING OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP FOR THE CENTER AND WAS CONTINUING INTENSIVE SEARCH FOR DIRECTOR. STATED THAT SYG WOULD WELCOME FURTHER NOMINATIONS FROM MEMBER GOVERNMENTS. ALMOST ALL LDC SPEAKERS EXPRESSED DISSATISFACTION WITH DELAY IN APPOINTMENT OF EX. DIRECTOR OF IRC AND CALLED FOR MAKING
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THE CENTER "FULLY OPERATIONAL" AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. GENERAL SAT-

ISFACTION WAS VOICED, HOWEVER, WITH THE RESULTS OF THE CTC'S FIRST SESSION. MOST COMMENTS ON THE SUBSTANCE OF THE PROSPECTIVE WORK PROGRAM CALLED FOR PRIORITY ATTENTION TO ELABORATING A TNC CODE OF CONDUCT WITH SOME LDCS INSISTING THAT IT BE MADE BINDING, WHILE OTHERS WISHED IT AT LEAST TO SERVE AS A BASIS FOR "PRACTICAL CONTROL" OF TNC ACTIVITIES. NO ATTEMPT WAS MADE, HOWEVER, TO PUSH FOR COMMITTEE ACTION ON THE QUESTION OF GIVING PRIORITY TO WORK ON A CODE. SOME LDC SPEAKERS (VENEZUELA, THAILAND, PAKISTAN, JORDAN) FELT THAT THE ACTIVITIES OF TNCs PRODUCED BOTH GOOD AND BAD EFFECTS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND THAT THE TASK OF THE CTC WAS TO ASSURE THAT THE LATTER BE REDUCED AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, SUCH AS THROUGH ASSURING THAT AN END BE PUT TO INTERFERENCE BY TNCs IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. WEO SPEAKERS GENERALLY VOICED SATISFACTION WITH THE FIRST SESSION OF THE CTC ALTHOUGH NOTING THAT IT ALSO HIGHLIGHTED THE COMPLEXITY OF THE SUBJECT. AS MIGHT BE EXPECTED, VARIOUS LDC AND SOCIALIST COUNTRY SPEAKERS INSISTED THAT THE NIEO AND CERDS SERVE AS THE FRAMEWORK OF CTC ACTIVITIES.

2. THE NETHERLANDS ANNOUNCED A CONTRIBUTION TO THE IRC OF \$350,000 FOR 1975 AND AT LEAST \$150,000 FOR 1976.

3. THE ICFTU EXPRESSED STRONG DISSATISFACTION WITH ASSERTED FAILURE OF CTC TO MAKE PROPER ARRANGEMENTS FOR CLOSE AND SYSTEMATIC CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN CTC AND LABOR REPRESENTATION (PARA 26 E/5655). ONLY "INTERMITTANT" PARTICIPATION IN THE WORK OF CTC WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE.DALE

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